

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02
SS-15 USIA-06 CU-04 BIB-01 /074 W
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R 121524Z AUG 77
FM AMEMBASSY ACCRA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9613
INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY LOME
AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY CONAKRY
AMEMBASSY COTONOU
AMEMBASSY MOGADISCO

C O N F I D E N T I A L ACCRA 6201

LONDON FOR SEITZ

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINS, PINR, PINT, GH
SUBJ: SOVIETS LAUNCH ANTI-CIA CAMPAIGN

REF: A ADDIS ABABA 4803 (NOTAL), B ADDIS ABABA 4507 (NOTAL)

1. AUGUST 10 PEOPLE'S EVENING NEWS FEATURES FRONT PAGE STORY
WITH BANNER HEADLINE ENTITLED "INTERFERENCE* THAT IS CIA'S
ROLE IN AFRICAN POLITICS." (TEXT REPORTED TO ALL ADDRESSEES
BY SEPARATE CHANNELS.) ARTICLE CONCLUDES THAT "IT IS
NECESSARY TO DISCLOSE SUBVERSIVE ACTIVITIES OF THE CIA
IN AFRICA THROUGH THE MASS MEDIA OF AFRICAN AND OTHER NON-
ALIGNED COUNTRIES..."

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2. ARTICLE FOLLOWS APPARANT SOVIET-INSPIRED CHARGES IN
ETHIOPIAN PRESS THAT GHANA GOVT. HAD COMPLAINED TO US
AMBASSADOR ABOUT SUBVERSIVE ACTIVITIES OF EMBASSY STAFF
AND THAT CIA AGENTS WERE PLANNING A COUP HERE (REF B).
IT MAY ALSO BE RELATED TO SOVIET PLANS TO REVITALIZE
PAN AFRICAN YOUTH ORGANIZATION WITH HEADQUARTERS IN
GHANA AS A VEHICLE FOR ATTACKING CIA OPERATIONS IN AFRICA.

(TWO MEMBERS OF GHANA-SOVIET FRIENDSHIP SOCIETY HAVE BEEN INVITED TO MOSCOW FOR TRAINING IN ORGANIZATIONAL AND EDUCATIONAL TECHNIQUES; ON THEIR RETURN TO GHANA, THEY ARE EXPECTED TO REORGANIZE THE NOW-MORIBUND ORGANIZATION.)

3. COMMENT: SOVIETS SEEM TO BELIEVE THAT PRESENT UNSETTLED STATE OF GHANAIAN POLITICS OFFERS AN OPPORTUNITY TO ACCUSE CIA OF TRYING TO UNDERMINE GOG AND, BY EXTENSION, OTHER AFRICAN GOVERNMENTS AS WELL. WE BELIEVE ATTACKS ARE LIKELY TO CONTINUE AND PERHAPS INTENSIFY. UNLESS DEPT. PERCEIVES OBJECTION, I SUGGEST I RAISE MATTER ON LOW-KEY BASIS NEXT WEEK WITH MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS SENIOR PRINCIPAL SECRETARY ERIC OTOO, FIRST THANKING GOG FOR REFUTING FALSE CHARGES IN ETHIOPIAN PRESS (REF A) AND THEN NOTING THAT BLATANT COLD-WAR STYLE ATTACKS ON US AS IN PRESENT NEWS ARTICLE ARE NOT IN OUR MUTUAL INTEREST NOR DO THEY CONTRIBUTE TO RELAXATION OF TENSIONS WORLDWIDE. (PEOPLE'S EVENING NEWS IS PRIVATELY-OWNED LEFTIST PAPER BUT GOG CAN EXERT CONSIDERABLE INFLUENCE OVER WHAT IT PUBLISHES.) HOLMES

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